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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Masahiro KAWANO §

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Conf. No.: Not yet assigned. § G

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned.

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned. § Examiner: Not yet assigned.

Filing Date: Herewith. § Attorney Docket No.: 9448-148US

§ (G0303US)

Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed documents be cited in the issued patent.

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Respectfully submitted,

Masahiro KAWANO

November 19,2003 (Date)

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WWS/JDS:msb Enclosures

Form PTO/SB/08A				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	Not yet assigned.	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Filing Dat	Herewith.	
STATE	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			First Nam d Inventor	Masahiro KAWANO	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Group Art Unit	Not yet assigned.	
			ecessary)	Examiner Name	Not yet assigned.	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	9448-148US (G0303US)	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Exr Initials	U.S. Patent Docume	ent	Name of First Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication of	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		Cited Document MM-YYYY	

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			FOREIGN PATE	NT DOCUMENTS		
		Foreign Patent Docume	nt		Date of	T ₁
Exr Initials	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	į
	JP	07-134477		Ricoh Co. Ltd.	05-1995	X*
	JP	2002-062694		NEC Corp.	02-2002	X*
				4		
				* Abstract only.		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.					
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